

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

AÑO NUEVO STATE RESERVE

GENERAL PLAN DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

The California Department of Parks and Recreation is preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the General Plan for Año Nuevo State Reserve. The Department of Parks and Recreation is the lead agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and pursuant to Section 15082 (CCR) of the State CEQA Guidelines and has prepared the Notice of Preparation (NOP). Your agency's comments are requested in connection with the scope and content of the environmental information germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency may need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the project.

The project description, possible environmental impacts, and location are attached.

Your response must be sent to the address below not later than thirty (30) days after the receipt of this notice. We would appreciate the name of a contact person in your agency. If you have any questions, please call Terry Lee at (831) 657-6349.



Terry Lee, Associate Landscape Architect
Central Service Center
Department of Parks and Recreation
21 Lower Ragsdale Drive
Monterey, CA 93940

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse-Office of Planning & Research, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 222 P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, California 95812-3044 • 916/445-0613

SCH # _____

Project Title: Año Nuevo State Reserve General Plan
Lead Agency: Department of Parks and Recreation
Street Address: 21 Lower Ragsdale Drive
City: Monterey
Contact Person: Terry Lee
Phone: (831) 657-6349
County: Monterey

Project Location:
County: San Mateo City/Nearest Community: Santa Cruz
Cross Streets: Highway 1 Zip Code: 94063 Total Acres: 1,100
Assessor's Parcel No. *Section: *Twp. *Range: *Base:
Within 2 Miles: State Hwy Highway 1 Waterways: Año Nuevo, Cascade, Elliot, Finney, Gazos, & Green Oaks
Airports: None Railways: None Schools: None
* Landgrant: Punto del Año Nuevo

Document Type:
CEQA: [X] NOP [] Supplement/Subsequent EIR NEPA: [] NOI Other: [] Joint Document
[] Early Cons (Prior SCH No.) [] EA [] Final Document
[] Neg Dec [] Other [] Draft EIS [] Other
[] Draft EIR [] FONSI

Local Action Type:
[] General Plan Update [] Specific Plan [] Rezone [] Annexation
[] General Plan Amendment [] Master Plan [] Prezone [] Redevelopment
[] General Plan Element [] Planned Unit Development [] Use Permit [] Coastal Permit
[] Community Plan [] Site Plan [] Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) [] Other

Development Type:
[] Residential: Units Acres
[] Office: Sq ft. Acres Employees
[] Commercial: Sq ft. Acres Employees
[] Industrial: Sq ft. Acres Employees
[] Educational
[] Recreational
[] Water Facilities: Type MGD
[] Transportation: Type
[] Mining: Mineral
[] Power: Type Watts
[] Waste Treatment: Type
[] Hazardous Waste: Type
[] Other:

Funding (approx.): Federal \$ State \$110,000 Total \$110,000

Project Issues Discussed in Document:
[X] Aesthetic/Visual [X] Flood Plain/Flooding [] Schools/Universities [X] Water Quality
[X] Agricultural Land [X] Forest Land/Fire Hazard [] Septic Systems [X] Water Supply/Groundwater
[X] Air Quality [X] Geologic/Seismic [] Sewer Capacity [X] Wetland/Riparian
[X] Archeological/Historical [X] Minerals [X] Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading [X] Wildlife
[X] Coastal Zone [X] Noise [] Solid Waste [X] Growth Inducing
[] Drainage/Absorption [] Population/Housing Balance [X] Toxic/Hazardous [X] Landuse
[] Economic/Jobs [X] Public Services/Facilities [X] Traffic/Circulation [X] Cumulative Effects
[] Fiscal [X] Recreation/Parks [X] Vegetation [] Other

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:
Año Nuevo State Reserve

Project Description:
The proposed project is the preparation of a General Plan for Año Nuevo State Reserve that will provide long-term guidelines for future proposed facilities, land use, resource management, operation, interpretation, and concession operations at the park. The General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report will be the first tier of environmental analysis. Future implementation of General Plan proposals may occur in phases as funding becomes available, and these proposals will be subject to additional project-specific environmental review.

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

KEY
S = Document sent by lead agency
X = Document sent by SCH
***** = Suggested distribution

- * **Resources Agency**
- * Boating & Waterways
- * Coastal Commission
- * Coastal Conservancy
- Colorado River Board
- * Conservation
- * Fish & Game
- * Forestry & Fire Protection
- * Office of Historic Preservation
- Parks & Recreation
- Reclamation Board
- S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Commission
- * Water Resources (DWR)

Business, Transportation & Housing

- Aeronautics
- * California Highway Patrol
- * CALTRANS District # _____
- * Department of Transportation Planning (headquarters)
- Housing & Community Development

Food & Agriculture

Health & Welfare

Health Services _____

State & Consumer Services

- General Services
- OLA (Schools)

Environmental Protection Agency

- * Air Resources Board
- California Waste Management Board
- SWRCB: Clean Water Grants
- SWRCB: Delta Unit
- SWRCB: Water Quality
- * Regional WQCB # _____ - (_____)

Youth & Adult Corrections

Corrections

Independent Commissions & Offices

- Energy Commission
- * Native American Heritage Commission
- Public Utilities Commission
- Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
- * State Lands Commission
- Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
- Other _____

Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date _____ Ending Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting firm: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Contact: _____

Phone: () _____

Applicant: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

For SCH Use Only:

Date Received at SCH _____

Date Review Starts _____

Date to Agencies _____

Date to SCH _____

Clearance Date _____

Notes:

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

The California Department of Parks and Recreation is the Lead Agency under the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and is considering the preparation of a program level (first tier) environmental document for the project identified below.

PROJECT TITLE:

Año Nuevo State Reserve General Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Report

PROJECT LOCATION:

Año Nuevo State Reserve is located in San Mateo County on the west side of Highway 1, approximately 27 miles south of Half Moon Bay and approximately 20 miles north of Santa Cruz. The reserve covers an area of approximately 1,100 acres and is located adjacent to Año Nuevo State Park.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The General Plan will provide long-term guidelines for future proposed facilities, land use, resource management, park operation, interpretation, and concession operations at Año Nuevo State Reserve. Specific development proposals or management plans are not part of the General Plan. This General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report is the first tier of environmental analysis. Future implementation of General Plan proposals may occur in phases as funding becomes available, and these proposals will be subject to additional project-specific environmental review.

The General Plan will be based upon the park's classification, Declaration of Purpose, and Vision, which will provide a context and direction for future park management and site specific planning and development. The plan will consider project alternatives and can recommend further studies for future development projects.

The General Plan will develop park-wide goals and guidelines and may also call for the preparation of management plans covering subjects such as natural resources and sensitive species, cultural resources, park recreation, interpretation, trails, regional influences, and visitor impacts.

The following are some of the primary planning issues anticipated in this process:

This planning effort will focus on the primary question of how do we meet increasing demands for public recreation at Año Nuevo State Reserve while also improving the protection, preservation, and management of the reserve's unique natural and cultural resources, and protect its special sense of place.

Regional influences and parks relationship with surrounding areas. Opportunities may exist to improve the park's ecological, biological, recreational, and educational relationships with neighboring lands, land-uses, landowners, jurisdictions, services, and facilities.

Maintenance and enhancement of recreational opportunities and visitor experiences. Opportunities may exist to maintain and enhance the diverse range of day-use visitor experiences including picnicking, fishing, hiking, nature trails, and guided beach tours into the northern elephant seal reserve while protecting the natural and cultural resources of the park.

Visitor use impacts on resources. The General Plan will evaluate the impacts of existing and potential development and visitor use on sensitive resources and will initiate visitor capacity surveys for park planning zones.

Preservation and restoration of sensitive plants, animals, and their habitats in the park. The park provides habitat for a number of sensitive plant and animal species. Opportunities may exist to enhance habitats, restore populations, and protect these and other less sensitive species. This plan may expand on the existing management practices for the elephant seal, western snowy plover, and the San Francisco garter snake by continuing controlled public access, minimizing disturbances during the breeding season and introducing an interpretive program to educate the public on conservation of these and other listed species.

Invasive exotic plant and animal species management. Invasive exotic plant and animal species are negatively affecting the park's native plants, animals, and habitats. Guidelines are needed for long-term management of invasive species.

Transportation, circulation, and parking. Opportunities may exist to lessen traffic impacts on intrinsic park values and improve park entrances, circulation, and parking. Road and trail systems may need improvement to meet future park management and recreation needs.

Park interpretive and educational resources, programs, and facilities. Opportunities may exist to improve the park's interpretive and educational programs and facilities that will interpret the significance of the pinniped rookery and that will maintain visitor visual interpretation while providing full protection and unrestricted use of the rookery by the pinniped population.

Employee housing. Opportunities may exist to improve and/or increase employee housing.

POSSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

The 4,000-acre Año Nuevo State Reserve provides significant habitat areas for the harbor seal, the California sea lion, the Stellar sea lion and breeding grounds for the elephant seal. Año Nuevo Island and the adjacent mainland beaches make up one of the most important pinniped rookery and resting areas in central and northern California.

Approximately 200,000 people visit the reserve annually to observe the seals in their natural habitat and over 40,000 visitors participate in formal guided walks during the winter breeding season.

Año Nuevo State Marine Reserve contains an abundance of rare and endangered species and native dune, coastal riparian habitat, and offshore islands. In addition to elephant seals, the reserve supports other threatened or endangered species including Western snowy plovers, San Francisco garter snakes, Coho salmon and cliff swallows.

Aggressive invasive weeds like pampas grass, European dune grass, cape ivy, and eucalyptus trees threaten the integrity of the rare habitats and their associated native species.

Facility enhancement within the park units within this stretch of coastline, including Año Nuevo State Reserve, is significantly limited by the lack of potable water and inadequate sewage disposal facilities. The park also contains numerous sites of archaeological and cultural significance.

The EIR will analyze the potential environmental impacts associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan. Specific areas of analysis will include potential impacts to soils, water quality, wildlife and habitat, vegetation, aesthetics, cultural resources, and impacts from interpretive, educational, and recreational activities at Año Nuevo State Reserve. Generally, long-term effects should be beneficial as resource management is implemented and development and intensive public use is located or redirected to less sensitive areas.

HOW TO COMMENT:

The comment period for the Notice of Preparation (NOP) will close 30 days after receipt of this notice. Please note that while the comment period for the NOP has a closing date, interested parties are encouraged to contact State Parks staff at any time during the process to receive an update of the process, ask questions, or share information. Please send written responses to:

Terry Lee, Associate Landscape Architect
California Dept. of Parks and Recreation
Central Service Center
21 Lower Ragsdale Drive
Monterey, CA 93940

AÑO NUEVO STATE RESERVE GENERAL PLAN

ENVIRONMENTAL (INITIAL STUDY) CHECKLIST

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS. Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

COMMENTS:

The General Plan may include proposals for enhancing existing, or providing new visitor facilities that may have the potential for adverse impacts to aesthetic resources depending on the siting and design of proposed facilities at the time such proposals are implemented. The potential for significant impacts to scenic vistas, the visual character, and nighttime views of the area as a result of implementing the proposed General Plan will be evaluated in the General Plan EIR. The General Plan will propose appropriate goals, guidelines, and necessary mitigation measures to address any significant impacts to aesthetic resources. Future implementation of General Plan proposals will occur in phases as funding becomes available, and these proposals will be subject to additional project-specific environmental review.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
II. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES.				
In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997), prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model for use in assessing impacts on agricultural and farmland.				
Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use?

COMMENTS:

Farmland of Statewide Importance and Unique Farmland exist adjacent to the reserve and according to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), it is likely that high quality agricultural soils exist within Año Nuevo State Reserve. In addition, according to San Mateo County Planning Department maps, a portion of the reserve is subject to a Williamson Act contract. The proposed General Plan EIR will address potential conflicts with existing agricultural uses in the project vicinity and will address the potential conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use. The General Plan will propose appropriate goals, guidelines, and necessary mitigation measures to address any significant impacts to agricultural resources. Future implementation of General Plan proposals will occur in phases as funding becomes available, and these proposals will be subject to additional project-specific environmental review.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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III. AIR QUALITY.

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied on to make the following determinations.

Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan or regulation? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations (e.g., children, the elderly, individuals with compromised respiratory or immune systems)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

COMMENTS:

The General Plan may include proposals for enhancing existing, or providing new visitor facilities that may have the potential for short-term impacts to air quality (e.g. fugitive dust, construction equipment emissions). Additionally, implementation of General Plan proposals may provide additional educational and interpretive opportunities that may increase visitation to the park, thus potentially increasing the local concentration of vehicle emissions. The potential for significant impacts to air quality as a result of implementation of the proposed General Plan will be evaluated in the General Plan EIR. The project will comply with all applicable air quality plans and/or regulations and the General Plan will propose appropriate goals, guidelines, and necessary mitigation measures to address any significant impacts to air quality. Future implementation of General Plan proposals will occur in phases as funding becomes available, and these proposals will be subject to additional project-specific environmental review.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modification, on any species identified as a sensitive, candidate, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands, as defined by §404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

COMMENTS:

Several sensitive species and habitats are known to occur within and adjacent to Año Nuevo State Reserve. The General Plan may include proposals for enhancing existing, or providing new visitor facilities and educational/interpretive opportunities that may have the potential for adverse impacts to biological resources when such proposals are implemented. The potential for significant impacts to sensitive species, natural communities, wetlands, and migratory corridors and nursery sites as a result of implementing the proposed General Plan will be evaluated in the General Plan EIR. The General Plan will propose appropriate goals, guidelines, and necessary mitigation measures to address any significant impacts to biological resources. Future implementation of General Plan proposals will occur in phases as funding becomes available, and these proposals will be subject to additional project-specific environmental review.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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V. CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:

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|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource, as defined in §15064.5? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource, pursuant to §15064.5? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

COMMENTS:

Año Nuevo State Reserve contains a variety of sensitive cultural resources. The General Plan may propose facility improvements, educational/interpretive opportunities, and land use changes that may have the potential to adversely impact cultural resources at the time such proposals are implemented. The potential for significant impacts to historical and archaeological resources as a result of implementing the proposed General Plan will be evaluated in the General Plan EIR. The General Plan will propose appropriate goals, guidelines, and necessary mitigation measures to address any significant impacts to cultural resources. Future implementation of General Plan proposals will occur in phases as funding becomes available, and these proposals will be subject to additional project-specific environmental review.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:

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|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: | | | | |
| i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map, issued by the State Geologist for the area, or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? (Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ii) Strong seismic ground shaking? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| iv) Landslides? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable, as a result of the project and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1997), creating substantial risks to life or property? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste disposal systems, where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site, or unique geologic feature? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

COMMENTS:

Año Nuevo State Reserve is located in a seismically active zone, with numerous known faults in the vicinity. The General Plan may propose facility improvements, educational/interpretive opportunities, and land use changes that may result in changes in site topography and soil disturbance that could potentially cause or contribute to erosion, unstable soil conditions, or geologic hazards. The potential for significant impacts from geologic hazards and soil conditions as a result of implementing the proposed General Plan will be evaluated in the General Plan EIR. The General Plan will propose appropriate goals, guidelines, and necessary mitigation measures to address any significant impacts from geologic hazards. Future implementation of General Plan proposals will occur in phases as funding becomes available, and these proposals will be subject to additional environmental review.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.

Would the project:

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|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and/or accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials, substances, or waste into the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites, compiled pursuant to Government Code §65962.5, and, as a result, create a significant hazard to the public or environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Be located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport? If so, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Be located in the vicinity of a private airstrip? If so, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

- h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death from wildland fires, including areas where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?

COMMENTS:

Año Nuevo State Reserve is not located in the vicinity of a school, public or private airstrip, or on a hazardous materials site. The proposed General Plan would not involve proposals resulting in the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials, or impair or interfere with any emergency response plans. In addition, the area is not particularly susceptible to the risk of wildland fire. The General Plan may include proposals for new development that may result in the potential accidental release of hazardous materials during construction (e.g. construction equipment fuel spill/release) at the time such proposals are implemented. The potential for significant impacts from hazardous materials as a result of implementing the proposed General Plan will be evaluated in the General Plan EIR and all regulations for hazardous material transport, use, and disposal will be adhered to. The General Plan will propose appropriate goals, guidelines, and necessary mitigation measures to address any significant impacts relating to hazards and hazardous materials. Future implementation of General Plan proposals will occur in phases as funding becomes available, and these proposals will be subject to additional project-specific environmental review.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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VII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY.

Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge, such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level that would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial on- or off-site erosion or siltation? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in on- or off-site flooding? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Substantially degrade water quality? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area, | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map, or other flood hazard delineation map?

- | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| h) Place structures that would impede or redirect flood flows within a 100-year flood hazard area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death from flooding, including flooding resulting from the failure of a levee or dam? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| j) Result in inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

COMMENTS:

The General Plan may propose facility improvements, educational/interpretive opportunities, and land use changes that may have the potential to adversely impact water quality from both point and non-point sources. Portions of Año Nuevo State Reserve are subject to potential wave action flooding (Zone V) and portions are located in an area of undetermined, but possible flood hazards (Zone D). The potential for significant impacts from flood hazards and impacts to water quality as a result of implementing the proposed General Plan will be evaluated in the General Plan EIR. The General Plan will propose appropriate goals, guidelines, and necessary mitigation measures to address any significant impacts to water quality, drainage patterns, stormwater runoff, and significant impacts from potential flood and other inundation hazards. Future implementation of General Plan proposals will occur in phases as funding becomes available, and these proposals will be subject to additional project-specific environmental review.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Physically divide an established community? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Conflict with the applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of any agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to, a general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

COMMENTS:

The proposed project will produce a General Plan for Año Nuevo State Reserve that will provide a long-term outline and guidelines for future proposed facilities, land use, resource management, interpretation, and concession operations at the park. The proposals in the General Plan will be compatible with state, regional, and local land use regulations, policies, and consistency with existing planning documents will be addressed in the General Plan EIR. The implementation of General Plan proposals will occur in phases as funding becomes available, and these proposals will be subject to additional project-specific environmental review.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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X. MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that is or would be of value to the region and the residents of the state? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

COMMENTS:

Año Nuevo State Reserve is not known to contain any significant mineral resources and therefore, the project would not result in significant impacts to mineral resources of state or local importance. The implementation of General Plan proposals will occur in phases as funding becomes available, and these proposals will be subject to additional project-specific environmental review.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XI. NOISE. Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Generate or expose people to noise levels in excess of standards established in a local general plan or noise ordinance, or in other applicable local, state, or federal standards? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Generate or expose people to excessive groundborne vibrations or groundborne noise levels? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Create a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project (above levels without the project)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Create a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project, in excess of noise levels existing without the project? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Be located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport? If so, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Be in the vicinity of a private airstrip? If so, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

COMMENTS:

The General Plan may propose facility improvements, educational/interpretive opportunities, and land use changes that may have the potential to result in increased noise levels associated with visitor use. In addition, the operation of construction equipment during any proposed future construction projects may temporarily increase noise levels at the park. The potential for significant impacts from increased noise levels as a result of implementing the proposed General Plan will be evaluated in the General Plan EIR. The General Plan will propose appropriate goals, guidelines, and necessary mitigation measures to address any significant impacts from increased noise levels. The implementation of General Plan proposals will occur in phases as funding becomes available, and these proposals will be subject to additional project-specific environmental review.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XII. PUBLIC SERVICES. Would the project:

a) Result in significant environmental impacts from construction associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

COMMENTS:

The proposed project will produce a General Plan for Año Nuevo State Reserve that will provide a long-term outline and guidelines for future proposed facilities, land use, resource management, interpretation, and concession operations at the park. The proposals in the General Plan will not result in a significant increased demand on public services. The implementation of General Plan proposals will occur in phases as funding becomes available, and these proposals will be subject to additional project-specific environmental review.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XIV. RECREATION. Would the project:

a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities, such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

COMMENTS:

The proposed project will produce a General Plan for Año Nuevo State Reserve that will provide guidelines for future land use and development of the park and may include proposals for facility improvements, educational/interpretive opportunities, and land use changes that may have the potential for adverse environmental impacts. The potential for significant adverse physical effects on the environment as a result of implementing the proposed General Plan will be evaluated in the General Plan EIR. The General Plan will propose appropriate goals, guidelines, and necessary mitigation measures to address any significant environmental impacts. Future implementation of General Plan proposals will occur in phases as funding becomes available, and these proposals will be subject to additional project-specific environmental review.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC. Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial increase in traffic, in relation to existing traffic and the capacity of the street system (i.e., a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Exceed, individually or cumulatively, the level of service standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Cause a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location, that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Contain a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or a dangerous intersection) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment) that would substantially increase hazards?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

COMMENTS:

The proposed project will produce a General Plan for Año Nuevo State Reserve that will provide guidelines for future land use and development of the park and may include proposals for facility improvements, educational/interpretive opportunities, and land use changes that may result in increased visitor use and associated demand for parking and traffic circulation improvements. The potential for significant impacts from potential traffic increases and transportation demands as a result of implementing the proposed General Plan will be evaluated in the General Plan EIR. The General Plan will propose appropriate goals, guidelines, and necessary mitigation measures to address any significant impacts resulting from increased traffic, parking, and transportation demands. Future implementation of General Plan proposals will occur in phases as funding becomes available, and these proposals will be subject to additional environmental review.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS.

Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Exceed wastewater treatment restrictions or standards of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Would the construction of these facilities cause significant environmental effects? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Would the construction of these facilities cause significant environmental effects? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources or are new or expanded entitlements needed? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Result in a determination, by the wastewater treatment provider that serves or may serve the project, that it has adequate capacity to service the project's anticipated demand, in addition to the provider's existing commitments? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations as they relate to solid waste? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

COMMENTS:

The proposed project will produce a General Plan for Año Nuevo State Reserve that will provide guidelines for future land use and development of the park and may include proposals for facility improvements, educational/interpretive opportunities, and land use changes that may require the need for new or expanded utilities and services. The construction or expansion of new water or wastewater treatment facilities, storm water drainage facilities, and solid waste disposal facilities will comply with all applicable regulations and policies with regard to water quality and solid waste. The potential for significant impacts the construction or expansion of utilities and services as a result of implementing the proposed General Plan will be evaluated in the General Plan EIR. In addition, the General Plan will propose appropriate goals, guidelines, and necessary mitigation measures to address any significant environmental impacts. Future implementation of General Plan proposals will occur in phases as funding becomes available, and these proposals will be subject to additional project-specific environmental review.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.

Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Have the potential to substantially reduce the habitat of any fish or wildlife species? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Have the potential to cause any fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Have the potential to threaten or eliminate any plant or animal community? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) Have the potential to reduce the number or restrict the range of any rare, protected, special, or endangered plant or animal? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Have the potential to eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g) Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, other current projects, and probably future projects?) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| h) Have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on humans, either directly or indirectly? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

COMMENTS:

The proposed project will produce a General Plan for Año Nuevo State Reserve that will provide guidelines for future land use and development of the park and may include proposals for facility improvements, educational/interpretive opportunities. The implementation of the General Plan may have the potential to result in significant adverse impacts to biological and cultural resources. In addition, potential increases in traffic, noise, alteration of existing viewsheds, and potential seismic and flooding hazards may result in potential adverse effects on humans either directly or indirectly. The potential impacts to biological resources, cultural resources, and potential impacts to humans as a result of implementing the proposed General Plan and necessary mitigation measures will be addressed in the General Plan EIR. Furthermore, it is possible that the impacts of implementing the proposed General Plan will combine with impacts associated with development occurring in surrounding areas to create significant cumulative impacts. An assessment of the cumulative impacts of the proposed General Plan and adjacent jurisdictions will be conducted and mitigation measures will be identified in the General Plan EIR to reduce and/or eliminate potentially significant cumulative impacts.



**AÑO NUEVO & BUTANO STATE PARKS
AND
AÑO NUEVO STATE RESERVE
NOTICE OF PREPARATION**

19 Miles to Santa Cruz